

From: [Keith Horn](#)
To: [Canellas, Bart](#); [John Ford \(DHH\)](#); [Durant, Jennah](#)
Cc: [Hubbard, Joseph](#); [Little, Bill](#)
Subject: RE: Devil's Swamp Questions
Date: Friday, August 14, 2015 8:56:42 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

John:

To answer your question below about drinking water: all water in the site area comes from deep groundwater wells that are in no way threatened by the releasers in Devil's Swamp Lake. In an abundance of caution and to alleviate community concerns, EPA sampled drinking water in the community in the past and found no issues. Bart can no doubt tell you more about that effort.

Keith Horn
Staff Environmental Scientist
LDEQ UST and Remediation Division
Desk (225) 219-3793 – NOTE NEW NUMBER
Facsimile (225) 219-3398



From: Canellas, Bart [<mailto:canellas.bart@epa.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 4:46 PM
To: John Ford (DHH); Durant, Jennah
Cc: Hubbard, Joseph; Little, Bill; Keith Horn
Subject: RE: Devil's Swamp Questions

These are better photos and maps. Devil's Swamp Lake is the NPL site. Is a small lake within the large floodplain known as Devil's Swamp in East Baton Rouge Parish, LA.

Bartolome J Canellas (6SF-RL)
Remedial Project Manager
LA/NM/OK Remedial Section
EPA Region 6 - Superfund Program
Office: (214) 665-6662



9600780

From: John Ford (DHH) [<mailto:JPFord@la.gov>]

Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 4:02 PM

To: Durant, Jennah

Cc: Hubbard, Joseph; Canellas, Bart; Little, Bill

Subject: RE: Devil's Swamp Questions

Also this: Is the area drinking water from the Mississippi River, or from an aquifer?

Aquifer, right?

John Ford

Press Officer | Bureau of Media and Communications

Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals

jpford@la.gov

O: 225-342-9010 | M: 318-447-8663



From: John Ford (DHH)

Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 3:51 PM

To: 'Durant, Jennah'

Cc: Hubbard, Joseph; 'Canellas, Bart'

Subject: RE: Devil's Swamp Questions

Bart,

We received a follow up question to the response:

The ongoing investigation – was that part of the studies being done by Clean Harbors under the EPA order? Or was that state testing?

John Ford

Press Officer | Bureau of Media and Communications

Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals

jpford@la.gov

O: 225-342-9010 | M: 318-447-8663



From: Durant, Jennah [<mailto:Durant.Jennah@epa.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 3:20 PM
To: John Ford (DHH)
Cc: Hubbard, Joseph
Subject: RE: Devil's Swamp Questions

Hello John—

I wanted to introduce myself and my colleague, Joseph Hubbard, since it seems we are getting similar inquiries from the AP. Bart passed along the email chain after I spoke to him about Janet's questions.

Joe and I are the two media officers for EPA Region 6. Please let us know if there's anything we can help coordinate in the future. Our contact info is below.

Jennah Durant
Durant.jennah@epa.gov
214 665-2287

Joe Hubbard
Hubbard.joseph@epa.gov
214 665-8476

The main number to our public affairs office is 214 665-2200.

Thank you,
Jennah Durant
US EPA Region 6
Press Office

From: Canellas, Bart
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 1:43 PM
To: Durant, Jennah
Subject: FW: Devil's Swamp Questions

[Email 1](#)

From: Canellas, Bart
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 1:13 PM
To: 'John Ford (DHH)'
Cc: Little, Bill; Keith Horn; Frank Opelka; Christine Arbo Peck; Olivia Watkins Hwang
Subject: RE: Devil's Swamp Questions

Very OK with Bart.

Bartolome J Canellas (6SF-RL)
Remedial Project Manager
LA/NM/OK Remedial Section
EPA Region 6 - Superfund Program
Office: (214) 665-6662



From: John Ford (DHH) [<mailto:JPFord@la.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 1:08 PM
To: Canellas, Bart
Cc: Little, Bill; Keith Horn; Frank Opelka; Christine Arbo Peck; Olivia Watkins Hwang
Subject: RE: Devil's Swamp Questions

Please let me know if this is an appropriate response:

“The specific source for the mercury is unclear, however this is a large, industrial area with multiple facilities that may have contributed to the presence of mercury. At this time, it appears the PCBs are related to the former Rollins facility that operated in the 1970s. The facility that currently operates out of the former Rollins facility is no longer discharging PCBs, and we do not believe any PCBs are currently being discharged into the body of water.

There has been an ongoing investigation of the area since 2011, which has involved separate sampling of water, sediments, fish and crawfish in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014. The full investigation will be completed by the end of this year, and the EPA will further evaluate the situation at that time. Additionally, the responsible parties will prepare a Feasibility Study to identify methods of reducing unacceptable risk.

I’d also like to make it clear that this does not affect the area’s drinking water.”

John Ford

Press Officer | Bureau of Media and Communications
Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals
jpford@la.gov
O: 225-342-9010 | M: 318-447-8663



From: Canellas, Bart [<mailto:canellas.bart@epa.gov>]

Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 12:49 PM
To: John Ford (DHH)
Cc: Little, Bill; Keith Horn
Subject: RE: Devil's Swamp Questions

Forgot to answer how frequently we sample.

There has been one recent sampling event 2011,2012,2013,2014. During different years, different samples were collected as part of the investigation. Some times water and sediments. Other years fish. Other years crawfish.

But all is part of one event, one remedial investigation that provided the information for the state to conduct the review of the fish consumption advisory, and provided the information for the EPA to evaluate if further action is required to protect public health and the environment.

The remedial investigation report will be completed this year. The responsible parties will prepare a Feasibility Study to identify technologies and alternatives to be implemented in order to reduce unacceptable levels of risks. In other words, remediation of the Devil's Swamp Lake Superfund Site.

Bartolome J Canellas (6SF-RL)
Remedial Project Manager
LA/NM/OK Remedial Section
EPA Region 6 - Superfund Program
Office: (214) 665-6662



From: Canellas, Bart
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 12:24 PM
To: 'John Ford (DHH)'
Subject: RE: Devil's Swamp Questions

A specific source for mercury is unclear. This is a large industrial area with multiple facilities that may have contributed to the presence of mercury.

The PCBs are more related to the former Rollins facility that operated in the 1970s and had a drainage ditch that discharged into the lake at that time.

Today there are no PCBs being discharged by the current owner of the former Rollins facility. These

are old PCBs that were discharged or released long time ago.

Bartolome J Canellas (6SF-RL)
Remedial Project Manager
LA/NM/OK Remedial Section
EPA Region 6 - Superfund Program
Office: (214) 665-6662



From: John Ford (DHH) [<mailto:JPFord@la.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 12:04 PM
To: Canellas, Bart
Cc: Little, Bill
Subject: Devil's Swamp Questions

Bart and Bill,

DHH received a few questions from the Associated Press.

- 1) What is the source of the mercury and PCBs? Does it have anything to do with Rollins?
- 2) How often do we/have we sampled the water in the area? Every year, every two years, etc?

John Ford

Press Officer | Bureau of Media and Communications
Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals
jpford@la.gov
O: 225-342-9010 | M: 318-447-8663

